

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07

INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

USIA-12 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 CU-04 NIC-01 ACDA-19

SCA-01 RSR-01 IO-13 /141 W
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FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2080

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 1207

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, GE GW, WB

SUBJECT: GDR FLEXIBILITY ON TRAVEL CONTROLS DURING WORLD YOUTH
FESTIVAAL

REF: BERLIN 1201

1. SUMMARY: GDR REP MITDANK TOLD SENAT REP KUNZE JULY 16
THAT ISSUE OF RESTRICTIONS ON VISITS TO EAST BERLIN
DURING WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL COULD BE CONSIDERED CLOSED.
AFTER HAVING NOTED THAT OVER WEEKEND AND DURING DAY OF JULY 16
GDR WAS APPROVING VISITS DURING WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL,
SENAT WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR GDR ACTIONS TO INSURE
AGAINST ANY VIOLATION OF THE ARRANGEMENT ON VISITS.
END SUMMARY.

2. MITDANK INFORMED KUNZE JULY 16 GDR CONSIDERED MATTER
OF RESTRICTIONS OF VISITS DURING WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL
(JULY 28-AUGUST 5) AS CLOSED. IN BRIEF MEETING
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IN EAST BERLIN HE REFUSED TO SAY THAT

IT WAS "SETTLED" BUT ONLY COMPLAINED ABOUT SENAT UNWILLINGNESS TO REACH UNDERSTANDING WHICH WOULD HAVE ASSISTED GDR IN RESOLVING PROBLEM OF LARGE NUMBERS OF VISITORS DURING WYF. MITDANK MENTIONED FIGURE OF 156,000 ENTRY PERMITS TO EAST BERLIN AND GDR WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN ISSUED TO WEST BERLINERS (REFTEL) AND SAID THESE WOULD BE VALID DURING PERIOD OF WYF. (ACCORDING TO SENAT, RATIO BETWEEN VISITS BY WEST BERLINERS TO EAST BERLIN AS VISITS TO REST OF GDR HAS BEEN 3 TO 1).

3. SENAT SOURCES IN FIVE VISIT OFFICES IN WEST BERLIN HAVE CONFIRMED THAT GDR BEGAN ISSUING ENTRY PERMITS OVER WEEKEND AND THROUGHOUT JULY 16 TO APPLICANTS FOR VISITS DURING WYF. SENAT INTENDS TO OBSERVE CLOSELY PROCESSING IN COMING WEEKS AND DECIDE TO ISSUED PRESS STATEMENT TO THIS EFFECT.

4. ACCORDING TO KUNZE AND HEAD OF CHANCELLERY HERZ, GDR HAS BACKED DOWN ON PRESTRICIONS DURING WYF, BUT HAS TRIED TO GIVE BEST APPEARANCE TO ITS CHANGE IN POSITION. ALTHOUGH MITDANK WOULD REFUSE TO SAY CATEGORICALLY THAT ALL VISTORS WOULD BE ADMITEED DURING WYF, SENAT BELIEVES THAT APPARENT WEEKEND CHANGE IN PROCESSING GUIDELINES, TOGETHER WITH STATEMENTS JULY 16, AMOUNT TO TURNABOUT. SENAT ITSELF WILL TRY TO AVOID GIVING APPEARANCE OF CELEBRATING "VICTORY."

5. COMMENT: HERZ SPECULATED THAT GDR WOULD TRY TO MAKE UP FOR PRESENT CHANGE IN POSITION BY MAKING TROUBLE IN COMING WEEKS OVER EXFILTRATION, PERHAPS BY INVOKING ARTICLE 16 OF TRANSIT AGREEMENT WHICH ALLOWS GDR TO MAKE SPOT CHECKS OF TRAVELLERS SUSPECTED OF VIOLATING PROVISIONS. HE SAID HE COULD NOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY THAT SOME CASES MIGHT INVOLVE GDR AGENTS, BUT THAT IN ANY CASE, EXFILTRATION HAD REACHED SUCH PROPORTIONS THAT GDR WAS BOUND TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.BORG

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